On the other hand Air India had incurred a net loss of Rs. 43.41 crores during 1987-88 as against net profit of Rs. 30 crores during 1988-89. Exceptionally good performance of Air India as compared to the previous year, has been possible due to several factors such as introduction of non-stop flights on various sectors, introduction of additional flights to London, Frankfurt, Tokyo, more direct point to point operations within India and Gulf, etc.

Nepotism in Scholarship Schemes

798. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in 'The Times of India, of 22nd March, 1989 to the effect that nepotism and skilful twisting of rules was prevailing in his ministry to favour certain candidates for scholarships being given to students going abroad for postgraduate studies and doctoral research; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether any inquiry was made in this regard, if so, what are the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The press report in question has come to the notice of the Government. Recommendations regarding award of scholarships under the Scheme of Scholarships for Study Abroad for the year 1988-89 were found to be irregular in three cases and were not acted upon.

(b) The report of inquiry into the circumstances of these irregular selections is under consideration of Government.

Recommendations of the National Perspective Plan for Women

799. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps suggested in the National Perspective Plan for women's development in order to ensure participation of women in the decision making bodies at all levels;

(b) what are the schemes suggested in the Plan to benefit the rural women;

(c) whether any action plan has been suggested therein for a Uniform Civil Code to stop discrimination against women in all walks of life; and

(d) at what stage the plan is at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The National Perspective Plan recommends that women must not only be beneficiaries of the development process but participants. To this effect it suggests that 30 per cent reservation should be made for women in Panchayats and other elected bodies upto the district level with 30 per cent reservation amongst the office bearers of such bodies. Atleast 30 per cent of the candidates of political parties in elections to State Assemblies and the Parliament should be

women. Women should be represented in such decision-making or selection bodies as the Planning Commission and State Planning Boards, Union Public Service Commission and the State Public Service Commissions, and other Committees and bodies set up by the Government from time to time.

(b) The perspective plan recommends that rural women should have access to means of production and control over the fruits of their labour. Allotment of Government waste lands and surplus lands, house sites, Indira Awas tenements, etc. should invariably be done in the joint names of husband and wife or single title of ownership given to women heads of households. Land records must incorporate the rights of women in the landed property shown in the names of their husbands and existing records reviewed and methods devised to revise entries to indicate joint ownership. Co-ownership should be extended to other interests such as usufructury and tenancy rights, heritable interests in land, shares in cooperatives, collection of forest produce, IRDP assets, tree pattas, etc. Credit needs of women should also be taken care of by sensitization of the banking system, special counters in banks, credit societies, establishment of women's development corporations, women representatives in financing societies, etc.

(c) The Perspective Plan points out that there is need to have a Uniform Civil Code by the year 2000 A.D.

(d) The National Perspective Plan is in the final stages of consideration.

Impact of hike in Railway freight on export of goods

800. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether hike in railway freight have made the goods from north *e.g.* Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, costly and less competitive in the export market; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to reduce their cost and encourage export of goods from these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) The increase in rail freights in the country is normally absorbed by the manufacturer and does not bear any relationship to international prices of goods. Railway freight rates are also telescopic in nature, and the rate per tonne per Km. decreases with the increase in lead.

Administrative Post sanctioned for some Central Universities

801. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of administrative post sanctioned for the Delhi University, J.N.U. and Aligarh Muslim University during the last three years;

(b) how many of these sanctioned posts were in Professors' pay scale, Readers' pay scale and Lecturers' pay scale; and

(c) how many of these posts have been filled up and how many of these are still living vacant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.